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PEOPLE & PLACES

2013 MoNEP Exhibit Update

Runge Conservation Nature Center in Jefferson City will be celebrating its 20th anniversary this year. MoNEP has been invited to have an exhibit at Runge during July and August as part of the celebration. MoNEP is also scheduled to have an exhibit at **Shaw Nature Reserve** during September and October. We are seeking members' photographs to include in these exhibits.

If you are interested, please prepare and submit up to **five** nature mages to **Lori Purk** by the April meeting. Images should be of subjects that can be found in Missouri. Please also keep in mind that our second exhibit has a more narrow subject matter focus, with a theme of ***Food***. Since we will not be able to show as many pieces at the second exhibit, those that fit the theme the best will be moved to the second venue. This theme can be interpreted many ways. We suggest you think about who eats what, or who eats whom in nature in Missouri. Subjects can include: insects and other animals feeding on plants, animals hunting prey or grazing, birds feeding their young; spider webs for capturing prey; butterflies, bees and hummingbirds feeding on flower nectar; squirrels storing nuts; edible native fruits trees and shrubs.

Once the submissions are collected, a committee will select the work to be displayed. Members will be notified by the end of April. If your work is selected, you will be responsible for having your work printed, mounted and matted. We will most likely have a group framing session sometime in May or June. Submissions should be sized the same as they would be for *Share and Show* or

MoNEP Exhibit Update continued

the *Holiday Show* and labeled with your name, the title of the piece, what the subject is and where the photograph was taken. Please refer to the MoNEP web site for more information on how to resize your images before putting them on a CD for submission.

Please include your name, email and phone number with your submissions. Feel free to contact Lori Purk at **314-869-7427** or **purkyl8r@aol.com** if you have any questions. As always, we look forward to sharing some of our group's incredible work with the public.

Message from Scott

I wanted to take time to focus on thanking the board and all the volunteers during these busy times. They put in a great deal of work to keep things running smoothly, even when obstacles occur. All these people pay annual dues and pay to attend our seminars. They do not receive freebies, even though they may miss some of the events to work in the background. Many of our volunteers have a full plate in and out of MoNEP. Some are working excessive hours, have family matters or may have health issues. We do not publicize these things. Yet, despite these challenges, things get done. At times we may not be as prompt answering emails or responding to other items. Please remember this in your correspondence. An occasional thank you goes a long way. I want to thank all the members for working with us on the issue of meeting locations. I also want to thank you for the continued strong attendance. It is one of the things that stand out to our speakers. - Scott

New Members

On behalf of MoNEP we would like to welcome our newest members: **Jack Butler** and **Patricia Collins**.

Member News

Richard Spener will be presenting a photography seminar at the **Ethical Society** on **April 1st** at **8:00 p.m.** Richard will focus on how to take better digital photographs. Richard's aim is to move them from snap shot shooters to creative photographers. Much of the program will be on composition. The program is geared for all levels of photographer, from the beginner to the advanced, and is open to the public.

Scott Avetta's Classes

This spring **Scott Avetta** will once again be offering photography classes at the **Missouri Botanical Garden** and **Shaw Nature Reserve**. His topics at the Botanical Garden include ***Basic Photography***, ***Garden Photography***, and ***Capturing Dragonflies: Jewels of the Garden***. The Basic Photography classes are very appropriate for relatively new photographers. If you know anyone who is just starting out you may want to encourage them to look into the Scott's Basic classes. His offerings at Shaw Nature Reserve are: ***Seeing Nature Through the Lens*** and ***Seeing Nature Through the Lens with a Close-up View***. Most classes are multi-day programs, featuring discussion in the classroom, shooting in the field and constructive feedback sessions. For more information and to register, visit **www.mobot.org/classes**.

Noppadol Paothong Exhibit

Noppadol Paothong, photographer for the Missouri Department of Conservation and a favorite MoNEP presenter, has an exhibit at the **Ober Anderson Gallery** in Kirkwood **through Thursday February 28th.** The gallery is located at **101A W. Argonne in downtown Kirkwood, across from the Amtrak station.** The gallery is open on **Wednesdays through Saturdays from 12:00 to 5:00 p.m.**, or by appointment.

BugShot/Belize

Join recent MoNEP presenter, **Alex Wild**, and others on an insect photography workshop in Belize in September. For details visit the **BugShot** website at **bugshot.net.**

Zoo Science Seminar

Richard Spener and his wife, **Toni Armstrong,** are among a group of Alaska Wilderness League Board Members who are hosting **Florian Schulz** for a presentation at the **Saint Louis Zoo** on **March 6th from 7:30 to 9:00 p.m.** Florian, an award-winning nature photographer and author, will be presenting: ***To the Arctic: Bringing a Remote Yet Vibrant Land to Life***. Florian has produced a wonderful book that is a companion to the IMAX movie ***To the Arctic*** that has been showing at the St. Louis Science Center. If you like polar bears you don't want to miss this presentation. Admission is free and the presentation will be in the Living World. In addition, Richard has written that there will be a private get together with Florian on the night of March 5th. If anyone would like to attend this private event, please call Richard at 314-434-2072.

WGNSS Photo Contest

The **Webster Groves Nature Study Society**, or WGNSS, is hosting a Natural History Photo Contest. The deadline for submissions is **March 2nd**. There are five categories and cash prizes. Details on the categories, prizes and judging criteria can be found at **www.wgnss.org**.

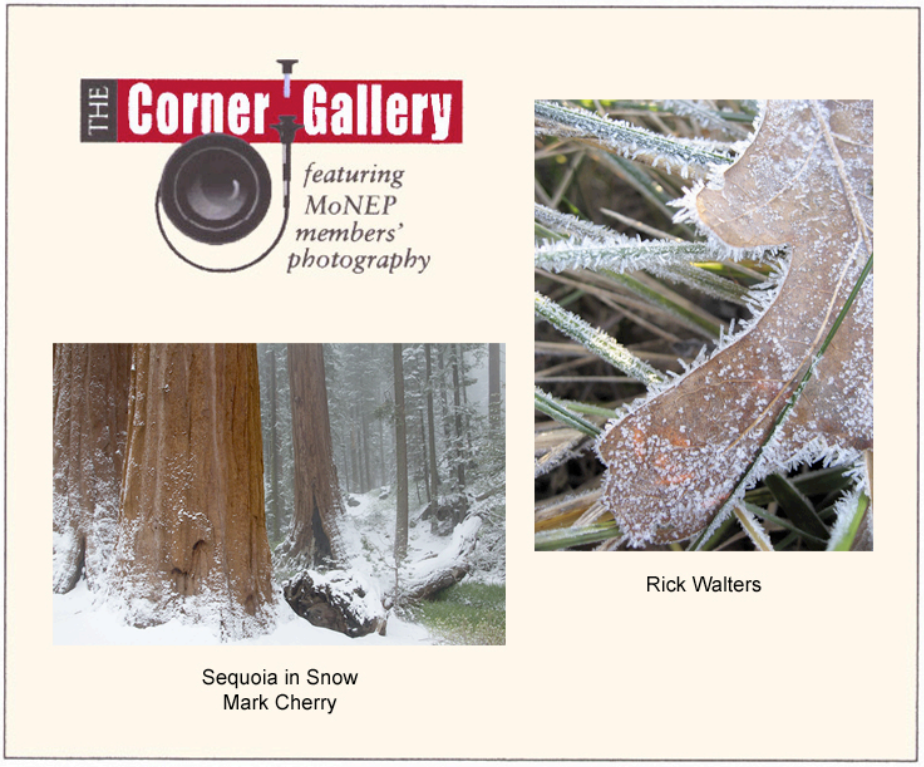
Winter Bird Photography

There are many opportunities for bird photography this season despite the always-unpredictable temperatures. Eagles, trumpeter swans, gulls, kestrels, hawks, ducks and white pelicans are in the bi-state area along the flyways, so now that your blood is thicker than it was in October, be sure to check out some of these winter events and opportunities:

Bald Eagle Days - Pere Marquette
Dates: 2/13, 16, 19, 25, 27, 3/ 5 & 6
Location: Pere Marquette Visitor Center, Grafton, Illinois
Reservations: required
Admission: free
Phone: 618-786-3323
www.greatriverroad.com/pere/eventsPere.htm

Masters of the Sky - National Great Rivers Museum
Dates: 2/16, 17 & 18
Show times: 11 a.m., 1 p.m., 3 p.m.
(Free live eagle display at 12 and 2 p.m. in the gallery)
Reservations: 877-462-6979
Admission: $5 for adults, $3 for children

Eagles have also been spotted over the past few weeks near Alton, Grafton and Hardin IL, as well as the Lewis and Clark Confluence Tower, Golden Eagle Ferry, Elsberry Lock and Dam and Clarksville, MO.



MEETINGS & programs

Meeting Dates, Times and Locations

Tuesday, February 19th from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.
Tuesday, March 19th from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

NOTE: The February meeting will be held at the **Sunset Hills Community Center** at **3915 S. Lindbergh Blvd, 63127.** The Community Center is located just south of the intersection of Lindbergh Boulevard and West Watson Road/Eddie & Park. Enter at the front of the building. The meeting rooms are located on the main level to the left of the entrance.

February Meeting – Sunset Hills

David Hanlon, a professor at St. Louis Community College, will be our February presenter. David leads instruction in photographic art and history at the Meramec campus. He has exhibited his photographs both regionally and nationally for the past thirty years and is active in writing about the history of the medium. His new book, ***Illuminating Shadows: The Calotype in Nineteenth Century America***, will be published in 2013. David is also a board member of the International Photography Hall of Fame (IPHF) and is the Chair of Curatorial Committee.

David will discuss the ways in which individuals have approached and interpreted nature through a variety of photographic mediums in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. The exploration of both the landscape and natural forms for topographic, aesthetic or emotional reasons in the history of photography will be discussed.

March Meeting – The Ethical Society

Mark H.X. Glenshaw is an award-winning naturalist who has closely observed and documented the lives of a mated pair of Great Horned Owls in Forest Park in St. Louis, Missouri, since December 2005. During this time, he has observed and photographed a vast range of behaviors including hunting, mating, nest-site selection and rearing of young. He shares his work on his blog, ***Forest Park Owls***, at **forestparkowls.blogspot.com**

Mark's talk will cover how he found these owls, basic facts about the species and the different behaviors he has been able to see and document with photos and videos to illustrate these behaviors. He will provide tips on how to dress, walk and behave so that you can get close to wildlife and photograph without disturbing your subjects. While Mark takes many photos and videos of these owls and other wildlife in Forest Park, he does not consider himself a photographer. Rather he views himself as a naturalist who uses cameras to document what he sees.

His work has been featured in *The St. Louis Post-Dispatch*, *St. Louis Magazine*, KTVI Fox 2, *The West End Word* and *Show-Me Missouri*. He leads tours of the owls' territory called owl prowls. He also gives talks for interested individuals and small groups as well as for formal events throughout the area.

St. Louis Camera Club Seminar

Although the topic is not nature photography, MoNEP members may be interested in this year's **St. Louis Camera Club Seminar** on **Saturday April 13th from 8:00 to 4:00 at Maritz in Fenton.** The presenter is **David Stoecklein**, one of the members of the elite group of photographers, the **Canon Explorers of Light.** David Stoecklein photographs the American West and his images include portraits, cowboys and cowgirls at work, horses, farms, ranches and landscapes. You can see his images on his web site: **stoeckleinphotography.com**. Registration for the seminar is $25 and includes lunch. You can register online at **www.stlcameraclub.com**.

January Speaker Recap

Jeff Hirsch gave a blockbuster presentation, ***After the Click – Digital Workflow with Adobe Lightroom***, at the January meeting. The presentation itself will be posted on the MoNEP website soon, complete with notes. Suffice it to say that Jeff made a great case for using Lightroom, which is designed with the photographer, rather than the graphic designer, in mind. It more easily enables the user to grade and organize their photos through its Library Module. The Develop Module, for processing your images, is powerful, flexible and fast, and never modifies the original image. He reviewed the steps he follows in his workflow and pointed out that you can sync development settings across multiple images so you can process batches extremely fast. He addressed archiving and storage issues and recommended saving images in Adobe DNG RAW format. This retains all RAW capture data and metadata, but with lossless compression, providing files that are almost one-half the size of RAW files. Jeff also emphasized his belief that we should all shoot in RAW. He likened it to using the whole Crayola factory rather than a box of 8, 16 or 24 colors. In closing, Jeff left us with one last thought: It is an amazing time to be a photographer! Our sincere thanks to Jeff for a wonderful presentation.

NANPA Summit 2013

The North American Nature Photography Association's annual summit will be held in Jacksonville, Florida from **February 28th to March 3rd**. The event features an all-star cast of today's top nature photographers. See what **Art Wolfe, George Lepp, Tony Sweet, Lewis Kemper, Guy Tal, Clyde Butcher** and others have to say to help you improve your photography.

There will be three days packed with great programs for both professional and amateur photographers. There will be a special event featuring the Jacksonville Symphony. *Nature and Music: Jacksonville Symphony Celebrates Nature Photography*, is an amazing collaboration that will feature the images of Robert Glenn Ketchum and the NANPA Showcase winners with a live performance of nature-inspired music. Registration includes activities, Exhibit and Trade Show admission and breakfast and lunch daily. For more information on the range of opportunities available to attendees visit the Summit web site: **www.naturephotographysummit.com**.

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MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Missouri Nature and Environmental Photographers is to provide a forum for individuals interested in the field of nature photography and the environment, provide education, gather and disseminate information, and promote nature photography as an art form and medium of communication.

MoNEP meetings are held once a month. Specific dates and meeting locations are posted in the newsletter and on the MoNEP web site.

MoNEP is an officially registered service mark. Use of the logo without MoNEP board approval is prohibited.

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VISIT OUR WEB SITE AT www.monep.org